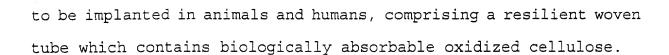
25

5



Additionally, U.S. Patent No. 3,155,095 to Brown suggests hollow cylindrical anastomosis joints which are made of an absorbable material.

Further, U.S. Patent No. 3,272,204 to Artandi and Bechtol suggests collagen-made flexible tubes which can be externally reinforced with a plastic coil or plastic rings.

Other examples of at least partially biodegradable implants include U.S. Patent No. 3,463,158 to Schmitt and Polistina which suggests fiber-made tubular surgical devices which are at least partially made of absorbable polyglycolic acid (PGA).

- U.S. Patent No. 3,620,218 to Schmitt and Polistina also suggests PGA-made surgical devices, such as tubes.
- Still further examples of at least partially biodegradable implants include WO 84/03034 to Barrows which suggests longitudinally openable, porous, coarse-surfaced biodegradable tubes used as a remedy for the nerves.
 - Additionally, the publication Plast. Rec. Surg. 74 (1984) 329, Dabiel and Olding, suggests an absorbable anastomosis device which



mixtures of which can be used as raw material for devices of the present invention both as a matrix (or binder polymers) and/or reinforcement elements.

- 5 Table 1. Biodegradable polymers
 - Polyglycolide (PGA) 1.

Copolymers of alycolide

- Glycolide/lactide copolymers (PGA/PLA) 10
 - Glycolide/trimethylene carbonate copolymers (PGA/TMC) 3. Polylactides (PLA)

Stereoisomers and copolymers of PLA

- Poly-L-lactide (PLLA) 4.
- Poly-D-lactide (PDLA) 5.
- Poly-DL-lactide (PDLLA) 6.
- L-lactide/DL-lactide copolymers 7. L-lactide/D-lactide copolymers

Copolymers of PLA

- Lactide/tetramethylene glycolide copolymers
 - Lactide/trimethylene carbonate copolymers 9.
 - Lactide/ δ -valerolactone copolymers 10.
 - 11. Lactide/€-caprolactone copolymers
 - Polydepsipeptides (glycine-DL-lactide copolymer) 12.
 - 13. PLA/ethylene oxide copolymers
- 30 Asymmetrically 3,6-substituted poly-1,4-dioxane-2,5-diones 14.
 - Poly-ß-hydroxybutyrate (PHBA) 15.
 - 16. PHBA/ß-hydroxyvalerate copolymers (PHBA/PHVA)
- 35 17. Poly-ß-hydroxypropionate (PHPA)
 - 18. Poly-ß-dioxanone (PDS)
 - Poly- δ -valerolactone 19.
 - 20. Poly- ϵ -caprolactone
- Methylmethacrylate-N-vinylpyrrolidone copolymers 40 21.
 - 22. Polyesteramides
 - Polyesters of oxalic acid 23.
 - 24. Polydihydropyranes
 - 25. Polyalkyl-2-cyanoacrylates
- 45 26. Polyuretanes (PU)

25

- Polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) 27.
- 28. Polypeptides